Second Administrative Reforms Commission

†349. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of Second Administrative Reforms Commission;

(b) if so, the main features of this report;

(c) whether Government have taken a decision to take steps to bring reforms in the administration on the basis of this report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The second Administrative Reforms Commission has submitted its first report to the Government on 9.6.2006 titled 'Right to Information-Master key to Good Governance'. The Report has also been put on the website of the Administrative Reforms Commission at http://are.gov.in/ for general information.

(b) The main recommendations relate to (i) repeal of the Official Secrets Act, 1923 in the current form and including necessary provisions in the National Security Act, and (ii) steps for effective implementation of the Right to Information Act.

(c) and (d) Government is studying the recommendations of the Commission in the above Report.

Legislation on holding of files by Government Officials

†350. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government also propose to make legislation on the lines of the one enacted by the State Government of Maharashtra whereby no Government Officer or employee can hold a file for not more than seven days;

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†Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if not, whether the State Government of Maharashtra have enforced this legislation in their State; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not applying this provision in Central Government offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCESAND PENSIONS, (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Maharashtra Government Servants Regulation of Transfers and Prevention of Delay in Discharge of Official Duties Act, 2005 was published by the Government of Maharashtra in 'Maharashtra Government Gazette' on 12.5.2006, after assent of the Act by the Governor.

(c) The Central Secretariat Manual of Office Procedure which is applicable to all the Central Government establishment already provides that no official shall keep a case pending with him/her for more than seven working days unless higher limits have been prescribed for specific types of cases through departmental instructions.

GDP growth rate

351. SHRI C. PERUMAL. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country would require Rs. 14 lakh crore in infrastructure sector to sustain an annual GDP growth rate of at least 7 per cent; and

(b) if so, in what manner it is proposed to mop up such huge amount of money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The Plan Estimates for different infrastructure sectors for the 11th Plan are being examined by the various Steering Committees/Working Groups set up by the Planning Commission for this purpose.